

Mountaineer

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3rd ACR completes MRX



Photo by Sgt. Chris Smith

A Soldier with Troop A, 1st Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, provides cover for his team members as they clear a building during training at "Medinal Jabal," Range 60, Monday as part of the mission readiness exercise in which the regiment was participating.

by Sgt. Chris Smith
Mountaineer staff

After weeks of hard-fought training, the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment's mission readiness exercise has drawn to a close.

The training was conducted by the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, Calif., to help the regiment prepare for its upcoming deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. NTC came to Fort Carson due to their training schedule being full and not being able to fit in a rotation for the troopers before they deploy, according to Lt. Col. Ernest Marcone, senior armor and cavalry trainer from NTC.

"They did outstanding," said Marcone. "Obviously we would have liked to have them at NTC for 14 days to really stretch the regiment, but I think the squadrons got a good look, and I think they got exactly what they needed."

Because of the size of the training area on post, the MRX placed each

squadron in the field for training for five days, which forced the training into a more condensed and intense version.

"The conditions were pretty tough on them," Marcone said. "It was very fast paced. They had to deal with all the forms of contact simultaneously every day. It made it tough on them, there's no doubt."

The squadrons had to perform missions in lethal and nonlethal situations. They searched for insurgents, improvised explosive devices and also met with the mayors of the towns to see what their needs were and how they might be able to help.

The troopers helped provide security for some of the towns and helped with other issues such as medical aid, electricity and sewage.

When dealing with the citizens of the towns, the Soldiers were inundated with actual Iraqi natives role playing for the exercise.

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Carson tax center open for business

by Capt. Paul F. Muething III
Fort Carson Tax Center

The Fort Carson Tax Center opened Wednesday to assist customers in preparing their 2004 taxes.

The 2005 Fort Carson Tax Center will again provide free federal and state tax preparation and electronic filing services to active duty military and their family members, mobilized reservists and retirees. In addition to providing these services on a walk-in

basis, a limited appointment schedule will be offered.

The tax center will be staffed by trained tax preparers who will provide assistance in preparing even the most complex individual income tax returns, including those involving the sale or rental of a home, depreciation of rental property, capital gains/losses, and tax deferred savings plans. Last year the

See Tax center, Page 3



Photo by Sgt. Jon Wiley

Sgt. Benjamin Gatto, a volunteer tax preparer with the 59th Military Police Company, assists a family member with her taxes at the Fort Carson Tax Center Wednesday.

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Happenings



Learn how colonists bartered and traded for goods and services — visit the Money Museum.

See Pages 25 and 26.

Change of command

A change of command ceremony for 7th Infantry Division and Fort Carson's commanding general is Thursday at Manhart Field at 11 a.m. Maj Gen. Robert Mixon will succeed Maj. Gen. Robert Wilson.

Post Weather hotline:

526-0096

Bayonet 6 bids farewell to troops

On Thursday I will pass the guidon of this outstanding installation to Maj. Gen. Robert Mison. From here, I will head to the Pentagon to serve as the Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations.

It has been a great two and a half years for Lynn and me. We have all faced many challenges together, as the Mountain Post Team, with multiple deployments and challenges around the globe. Through all of this, Fort Carson remains the best place in the Army for Soldiers to train and families to grow.

Not often is a Soldier blessed with a second assignment to such a wonderful post and supportive community. We leave behind old friends and new ones. But we have great memories of our time here and will return when the opportunity arises.

When I first came on board as the commanding general of the 7th Infantry Division and Fort Carson, I set forth several goals: to reinforce our Army's core competency — to train and equip Soldiers and grow leaders, to modernize and transform Fort Carson in keeping with the Chief of Staff of the Army's plans of building an Army of campaign quality with joint and expeditionary capabilities; to maintain Fort Carson as a premier power projection platform ensuring that our Army remains relevant and ready and properly oriented in terms of structure, capability, efficiency and, of greatest importance, the overall culture of our service; and finally, to place heavy emphasis on quality-of-life issues. I am proud to say that we have not deviated from this vision.

We have maintained our training goals through this difficult time. For almost a year, most of the Soldiers were deployed, yet upon returning we continued to ensure that they remained prepared and ready to deploy whenever needed. Unique among these training opportunities occurred just this month when we brought the trainers and opposing force from the National Training Center to Fort Carson to execute a rigorous Maneuver Training Exercise for the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment. This capstone event was a first for Fort Carson and the Army, and it proved to be a success for the Soldiers of the 3rd ACR and the entire Mountain Post Team.

In terms of transformation, we see changes occurring rapidly now and in the future. Our three principal objectives — modularity, rebalancing and stabilization — will enable us to serve the nation while caring for our Soldiers and their families. The 3rd Brigade Combat Team is the first of the Fort Carson units to undergo the change to a Unit of Action; the new modular design for the future. It has charted the right course — increasing capability, flexibility and sustainability. As the newest unit, the 2nd Brigade Combat Team of the 2nd Infantry Division, joins our Mountain Post Team later this year following its redeployment from Iraq, and will undergo a similar transformation.

Our installation as well as our training/maneuver areas are also transforming in an effort to provide the best possible training environment and quality of life for our Soldiers and families. We are building more modern family quarters

and troop billets, constructing a magnificent historical center, and upgrading all installation facilities to support the growth at Fort Carson. Our training areas, ranges, and simulators are as good as it gets in the Army. The construction of the \$52 million Arrival/Departure Airfield Control Group facility at Peterson Peterson Air Force Base will exponentially enhance our power projection capability.

In terms of quality of life, Fort Carson is second-to-none when it comes to taking care of Soldiers and families. Our medical facilities — the Residential Communities Initiative, day-care programs, elementary and middle schools, training areas, the barracks renovation programs — all of these, and more, are just a slice of the tremendous progress the Mountain Post has achieved over recent years. This achievement is due in part to the many professional Soldiers and civilians serving our Soldiers and families. To all you who diligently put forth the time, effort and dedication, I salute you!

Fort Carson is the best place in the Army to live for all of the aforementioned reasons and more, but also because it resides in a community that wholeheartedly supports its military. In all my years in the Army, I have never been surrounded by a more supportive community than the Front Range and Colorado Springs. It's comforting to know that our Soldiers and families are embraced by a community so caring and so generous. Thank you to the citizens of the Front Range and Colorado Springs.

The past 18 months has been hard



Wilson

on all of us. Deployments are never easy. We have lost members of our Fort Carson family to the Global War on Terrorism and each loss has been personal. I salute these valiant men and women and their families, for I know their sacrifices have made this world a better and safer place for us to live in. I know that as I leave such a great organization and community, Fort Carson will remain relevant and ready by providing the essential capabilities to our Army — today and tomorrow.

In closing, Lynn and I wish the entire Mountain Post family the very best. Thank you for all that you have done to make this assignment memorable and thank you for making Fort Carson a wonderful place to call home. God bless you.

Bayonet 6 — out!

*Maj. Gen. Robert Wilson
7th Infantry Division and Fort
Carson commanding general*

Seatbelts aren't only law, they're common sense

**by Spc. Zach Mott
Mountaineer staff**

There are certain checks that I go through every time I get into a vehicle. I always make sure the seat is in the right position, the car is in park, but, most importantly, I check to make sure my seatbelt is fastened.

If only every car had a flight attendant to ensure each passenger was securely fastened. The number of deaths on America's roadways would certainly diminish.

It's not only the law — it's common sense. We've all seen the national safety campaign commercials urging us to "buckle up for safety" or the Army's version, titled "drive to arrive." These may seem like cheesy, lame catch phrases, but they're true.

According to the National Transportation Safety Board, 44,888 people died as a result of automobile accidents in 2003, the most recent year statistics

were available. This is a 400-person drop from 2002, but still way too many people in total.

Recently, Fort Carson and 7th Infantry Division commanding general, Maj. Gen. Robert Wilson, issued a new policy letter stating that seatbelt use is now mandatory for all occupants of motor vehicles equipped with a seatbelt, operating on Fort Carson. Additionally, it states that all active duty and Reserve Component personnel must wear a seatbelt even when off post, no matter the type of vehicle.

Military police can, and will, issue tickets to those found in violation of this policy.

Whether it's a military vehicle or one that's personally owned, it's important that you are securely fastened in your seat. Even if you are in a slow-moving vehicle, you can be ejected and possibly killed if you are not wearing your seatbelt.

If you are in a car traveling 30 miles per hour (the speed limit on post, outside of the residential areas and a few other select locations) and you hit a

wall, the impact is four times greater than if the car was traveling only 15 miles per hour. That's the equivalent of falling out of a three-story window.

There are bounties of excuses people give as to why they don't need to wear a seatbelt. The one that annoys me the most is, "I'm a good driver, I won't get in an accident." Where I find fault in this — and believe me, I think I'm the world's best driver as well — is that it's the other guy on the road that frightens me. I may be a great driver, but who's to say the driver in the next vehicle is competent?

Many of us travel upward of 15 to 20 minutes just to get to the gates of Fort Carson, traveling at some degree of excessive speed, just to make it to formation on time. What if that person next to you on the highway is coming off a late-night shift at work and falls asleep at the wheel then veers into your lane? There's little a "good" driver can do to avoid this circumstance. But, a seatbelt can save your life, if worn properly.

MOUNTAINEER

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News

MRX

From Page 1

"What they provide is not only the cultural training, but they provide the language barrier that they're going to have to face in Iraq also," said Marcone. "So, it's kind of a two-pronged benefit having the Iraqi Americans in the towns."

The Soldiers had to use interpreters to interact with the town mayors and citizens. They also had to deal with protests and upset citizens trying to get the Americans to stop fighting in their towns.

The units, down to the platoon level, received after action reviews consistently throughout the training. The observer controllers from NTC also took advantage of Fort Carson's video system, which has cameras in the majority of the MOUT sites, to give very detailed AARs, in which they were able to show units exactly what they did wrong and not just tell them, said Marcone.

The training the regiment received was based on lessons learned from Iraq. NTC has sent observer controllers to Iraq in order to see what's going on and bring back possible training.

"We plan to do so again. They'll go over and see what the units are doing, see what the enemy is doing, see what TTPs (tactics, techniques and procedures) are effective then we bring those back to the National Training Center and help train coach and mentor units," Marcone said.

Though the training was moved from NTC to Fort Carson, Marcone said it was still very effective for the regiment.

"They got better every day," he said. "I think they're a different organization now, they see themselves better, which is the impetus for learning and growing and becoming a better organization which I think they'll be after this experience."

Tax center

From Page 1

Fort Carson Tax Center assisted more than 5,700 tax filers, saving them more than \$1.3 million in tax preparation and filing fees, and generating more than \$9.6 million in refunds.

The Fort Carson Tax Center opened Wednesday, and will operate from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Fridays. The tax center will also be open the following Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Jan. 22 and 29; March 19; and April 2. The tax center will be closed on federal and training holidays. The tax center is located in building 6284, 7086 Albanese Loop, located off Woodfill Road, across the street from the Colorado Inn.

Please bring all necessary tax records and documents (e.g. W-2 forms, children's Social Security cards, Forms 1099, Individual Retirement Account disbursements or contributions, rental property records, etc.) when you come for assistance. W-2s will be available through myPay at any time. Incomplete records will create additional time and effort in preparing your return as well as delay receipt of a refund. Also, if you will be filing a tax return for a deployed spouse, you must have a copy of the special power-of-attorney form for filing

Fort Carson Tax Center hours and information

Hours are:

Mondays through Thursdays: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Fridays: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturdays (Jan. 22 and 29; March 19; and April 2 only): 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Bring all necessary tax records and documents, including but not limited to:

- W-2 forms
- Children's Social Security cards
- Forms 1099
- IRA disbursements or contributions
- Special power of attorney form if filing taxes for deployed spouses

taxes. These are available at the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, Legal Assistance Division, located in building 6285, next to the tax center, Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The staff at the Fort Carson Tax Center is ready to help prepare and file tax returns. Take advantage of this free tax assistance service and encourage Soldiers and friends to do the same. For more information, contact the tax center at 526-5572 or 526-1830.

DFAS overpays 53,000 Soldiers in January

Money overpaid mid-month to be recouped at end of month

by **Eric W. Cramer**
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Soldiers who see an extra few hundred dollars in their mid-month January paychecks shouldn't spend it.

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service made an error that will cause about 53,000 Soldiers to be paid too much in January. The Army will collect the funds from end-of-month paychecks to restore financial balance.

Most of the affected Soldiers will receive overpayments of between \$200 and \$300. There are 316 Soldiers who will receive overpayments of more than \$500, a DFAS official said.

When the Army "draws back" the

overpayments, it will take back the overpayments of \$500 and more in two installments, officials said, to reduce any potential hardship for Soldiers.

Those who received less than \$500 extra will see the drawback in the January end of the month paycheck, Col. Kenneth Crowder, director of Army Pay Operations for the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, said those affected are Soldiers who have Army meal cards, but who are authorized for reimbursement for some meals.

Crowder said an incorrect date entered into a computer database caused the error.

He said DFAS was changing to the new rate for meal reimburse-

ments, when a data entry error backdated the change to 2004.

"It (the computer system) tried to apply the new rate to the entire previous year," Crowder said.

He said DFAS is notifying the affected Soldiers via their Army Knowledge Online accounts and through their chains of command.

"Every Soldier involved will receive a specific, personal e-mail explaining what occurred and what the corrective actions are," Crowder said.

Fort Carson's 230th Finance Battalion will consolidate a list of affected Soldiers by their major subordinate command and provide them to the personnel administration center, according to 1st Lt. Jill Clifford,

Fort Carson chief of military pay.

Those in leadership are asked to let their Soldiers know they should set aside the overpayment as DFAS will make a lump sum recoupment from their end of month January pay. Again, according to Clifford, overpayments over \$500 will be recouped through February.

Leaders also need to inform spouses and family members of deployed Soldiers that may be affected to preclude them from assuming that the overpayment resulted from the 2005 increase in pay or accrued from deployment entitlements.

"The biggest thing those Soldiers need to realize is to not spend the money," said Clifford. "It will come back out of their pay."

Military

AFAP issues discussed, answered

by Elaine Sampson

**Fort Carson Army Family Action Plan
Volunteer Coordinator**

Editor's note: This article is the first in a series where the answers to different Army Family Action Plan issues will be presented to the Fort Carson community. Each issue will be presented with its title, scope, recommendations and Fort Carson response. It is important to note that not all issues can be resolved at the local level. Many of them will be forwarded to higher commands for resolution.

How do you get something changed at Fort Carson? Ask that question to any of the more than 75 Army Family Action Plan delegates and you may get the same answer — submit an AFAP issue.

AFAP is a grassroots program that started more than 20 years ago. It is designed to address quality-of-life issues throughout the Army.

"AFAP is the way to have your voice heard. Your concerns start at the local level and may possibly be elevated to the FORSCOM (U.S. Forces Command) and Department of the Army-level AFAP Conferences," said Nancy Montville, Fort Carson AFAP Manager.

Active-duty, Reserve and National Guard Soldiers, retirees, civilian Army employees, Army family members and youths all gathered in early November to once again start the continuous

process of change.

The delegates were responsible for reviewing and evaluating issues submitted by members of the Fort Carson community. The issues varied from uniform changes to a change in medical insurance to concerns about barracks conditions.

Once the groups decided on its issues, they worked as a team deciding a title, the scope of the issue, and recommendations to fix the issue. The two-day conference ended with the delegates presenting their final issues to the command group and other delegates.

Following the conference, the groups worked on making ideas into reality really begins. Once the conference is over, the issues are forwarded to agencies throughout the installation. It is the responsibility of the individual agency to decide if the issue can be solved at the Fort Carson level or if the issue needs to be resolved at a higher command level.

The first issue is:

Location updates of injured Soldiers

Scope: Official next of kin are not getting continual updates as to the Soldier's location after the initial notification of combat zone injuries has occurred. Because of insufficient updates, the rear detachment is inundated with calls for information. If next of kin received these updates, they would not feel the need to involve outside officials (i.e. Congress, Staff Judge

Advocate, Inspector General or media).

Conference Recommendations:

1. Amend Department of the Army regulation for Operation READY, or Resource for Educating About Deployment and You, training to include continuous updating of the location of the injured Soldiers and make the training mandatory for all rear detachment command and staff.

2. Develop a standard operating procedure that coincides with rear detachment regulations, casualty regulations and rear detachment commander's book.

3. Establish a mandatory liaison notification officer for each brigade-level unit, who would be located at medical facilities.

G1 Response: This is not an issue that can be solely resolved at the installation level. A number of factors and agencies are involved in the notification process, to include the casualty office, rear detachment command and staff, and the medical community. Currently, primary next of kin is notified by either DA Casualty or the rear detachment, depending on timeliness and accuracy of information. After the initial notification, depending on the severity of the injuries sustained by the Soldier (AR 600-8-1, para 4-14), notification will continue by the commander of the military medical facility in which the casualty is

Military Briefs

CIF Hours

Central Issue Facility hours of operation:

Regular business hours

Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 7:30 a.m. to noon and 12:30 to 3 p.m. and Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to noon.

Initial issues

Mondays thru Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to 10:10 a.m.

Partial issues

Mondays Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Cash Sales

Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Direct exchange

Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 12:30 to 3 p.m.

Report of survey

Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Partial turn-ins

Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 12:30 to 3 p.m.

Full turn-ins

Appointments are scheduled Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, call 526-3321.

Effective immediately: Replacement will be scheduled Monday, Thursday and Friday mornings. Demobilized units tentatively have Tuesdays and Wednesdays to schedule out processing. Mobilization units will schedule unit direct exchange by appointment. Unit supply sergeants will collect Soldiers' DX items and schedule CIF appointments. A CIF employee will work one-on-one with a supply sergeant.

Active-duty units — Permanent Change of Station/End of Time in Service/chapters/retirees will make an initial out processing appointment Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays for turn-in. All follow-on appointments (14 OCIE items or less) will be scheduled if needed.

Bulk issue and turn-ins — by appointment only.

Appointments can be made with Kristine Harald at 526-3321. POC for this information is Frank Howard, CIF supervisor at 526-6477.

Laundry Service

Post Laundry Service — The post laundry service provides free laundry service to Soldiers for government-owned property only. Items issued by the Central Issue Facility should be cleaned at the post laundry prior to turn in. Allow extra time for items to return from the cleaners. It is not recommended to pick up your equipment on the same day as the scheduled CIF appointment. Turn around for service is 72 hours.

No appointment is necessary. The post laundry will not clean personal items like Battle Dress Uniforms, boots, tent pegs, canteens, entrenching tools or wet-weather gear. Material TA-50 items that can be washed include: sleeping bag assembly, chemical suits, Gortex, ruck sacks, coveralls, CVC jackets and most web equipment.

Hours of operation are 7:30 a.m. to noon and 12:30 to 3:45 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, excluding holidays. For more information, call 526-8806 or 526-8804.

Briefings

Recruiting briefing — A recruiting briefing will be held Feb. 10 for the 60th Special Operations Aviations Regiment (Airborne). The 160th is the nation's only special operations aviation unit. The unit provides rotary wing support to multi-ser-

vice special operations units to include Rangers, Special Forces, as well as naval, air and Marine forces. Briefings will be held at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at 4th Squadron, 3rd ACR Hanger, building 9633, room 210. For more information or to request an application for the unit, call (270) 798-9819, DSN 635-9819, or e-mail recruiters@soar.army.mil.

Special Forces briefings — Special Forces briefings will be conducted weekly in building 7450, room 100 at the 10th Special Forces Group compound. The briefing times are Wednesdays at 10 a.m. and noon.

The Army's Special Forces is a strategic, multi-purpose force capable of rapid response to various contingencies around the world. Called "Green Berets," these highly-skilled Soldiers are trained in unconventional warfare, foreign internal defense, direct action, special reconnaissance, combating terrorism, information operations and counter proliferation.

Special Forces candidates must be mature and self-motivated; open and humble; and better conditioned physically and emotionally than the average Soldier. All interested male Soldiers, privates first class to staff sergeants, and second and first lieutenants are encouraged to attend. For more information, contact Sgt. 1st Class Bill Roepe at 524-1461.

eArmyU — eArmyU program briefings are conducted at the Mountain Post Training and Education Center, building 1117, Tuesdays at 9 and 11:30 a.m. and Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m.

The Army Career and Alumni

Center briefing is required for all departing servicemembers. The current ACAP policy is to register personnel ETSing one year out and retirees two years out. Briefings are held Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 8:30 to 10 a.m.

Call 526-1002 or 526-0640 to schedule a briefing.

Are you at end of time in service?

If you're within 120 days of end of time in service, you must immediately call 526-2607 or 526-2599 to make your appointment for your mandatory Reserve Component Briefing.

The Commanding General's

Newcomers' Brief is the third Wednesday of each month, 1 to 3 p.m. at McMahon Theater.

Hours of operation

Education Center hours of operation — The Mountain Post Training and Education Center's hours for certain programs and services are as follows:

Counselor Support Center — Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Friday, 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Army Learning Center and Basic Skill Classes — Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m.

Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support and Advanced Personnel Testing — Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

eArmyU Testing — Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Friday, 8 a.m. through 4:30 p.m.

eArmyU Office — Monday through Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Friday, 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Military Occupational Specialty Library — Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. and 12:45 to 4:30 p.m.

Claims Division hours — The Claims Division office hours are Monday through Thursday from 9 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 4 p.m., closed Fridays.

To make a personnel claim, one must attend a mandatory briefing which is given Mondays and Wednesdays at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. At the briefing, one must submit a DD 1840/1840R.

Submit completed claims Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 4 p.m. Closed on Fridays.

If there is an emergency personnel claims issue on Friday, call Tina Kolb at 526-1352.

AFAP

From Page 5

located or the casualty area coordinator where the next of kins resides. Unfortunately, the volume of casualties precludes the medical community or casualty section of successfully notifying the next of kin at all junctures of the casualties' care. This is when the rear detachment command and staff is called upon to assist. Again, lack of manpower precludes the

rear detachment of successfully completing this notification task. Another factor that makes timely continuous notification difficult is the speed with which the casualty will move from one location to another, depending on severity of injuries and medical facilities available. While all three recommendations are valid and will help the issue at the installation level in the short term, it will not fix the problem in the long run. G1 recommends Department of the Army conduct a manpower survey and establish more robust

casualty affairs sections within the combat maneuver units at the brigade level, to include LNOs for the different military medical facilities.

This issue will be forwarded to the FORSCOM Level Conference to be held April 25 to 29 in Atlanta. Fort Carson will be sending representatives to the conference. For more information on the AFAP process, contact Nancy A. Montville, Fort Carson AFAP Program Manager at 526-4590 or 526-0460 or e-mail Nancy.Montville@carson.army.mil.

Dining Schedule

Wolf Inn (building 1444)

	Weekdays	Weekends
Breakfast	7 to 9 a.m.	7:30 to 9 a.m.
Lunch	11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.	11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Dinner	4:30 to 6:30 p.m.	4:30 to 6 p.m.

Striker Inn (building 2061)

	Weekdays	Weekends
Breakfast	7 to 9 a.m.	7:30 to 9 a.m.
Lunch	11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.	11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Dinner	4:30 to 6:30 p.m.	4:30 to 6 p.m.

Patton Inn (building 2161)

	Weekdays	Weekends
Breakfast	7 to 9 a.m.	7:30 to 9 a.m.
Lunch	11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.	11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Dinner	5 to 7 p.m.	4:30 to 6 p.m.

Jan. 22 to 28



Cav Inn (building 2461)

	Weekdays	Weekends
Breakfast	Closed	Closed
Lunch	Closed	Closed
Dinner	Closed	Closed

La Rochelle Inn (building 7481)

	Weekdays	Weekends
Breakfast	Closed	Closed
Lunch	Closed	Closed
Dinner	Closed	Closed

Long Knife Inn (building 9612)

	Weekdays	Weekends
Breakfast	7 to 9 a.m.	Closed
Lunch	11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.	
Dinner	Closed	



Photos by Pfc. Clint Stein

A new "leash" on life ...

LEFT: Capt. Tracy Hoff, Fort Carson Branch Chief Veterinary Service, left, takes stitches out of Mowgli, a Peterson Air Force Base service dog, three weeks after he had a pacemaker implanted. His handler, Air Force Staff Sgt. Michael Gilliland, holds Mowgli still while the stitches are removed.

ABOVE: Mowgli, a Belgian Malinois, shows signs of improvement by jumping on Gilliland. Mowgli was having problems with low energy and was first diagnosed with a slow heart rate at the Fort Carson Veterinary Clinic and was sent to Colorado State University Veterinary School for the surgery. Now that Mowgli has a pacemaker, his health has improved and he'll continue working as a service dog.

Iraqis help train 3rd ACR troops

by Sgt. Jon Wiley
Mountaineer staff

An Army training truism is that realism increases effectiveness, and when it comes to dealing with the civilian population in Iraq, it doesn't get any more real than the training 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment troops received during the mission readiness exercise Jan. 5 to 19.

For the exercise, war fighter trainers at Fort Irwin's National Training Center in California assembled a team of 250 Iraqi nationals and brought them to Fort Carson to simulate the types of populations 3rd ACR Soldiers will encounter in Iraq during their next deployment.

Leroy Latshaw, NTC training operations manager, said actual Iraqis have been used in training rotations since February 2004.

"We did a trial run with 40 linguists, and it worked so well we increased the number to 100 in the next rotation. Now, we're at 250," he said.

Latshaw said the Iraqis greatly enhance the quality of the training Soldiers receive.

"Before we used them, there wasn't that realism. Now that we've brought the Iraqis in, it adds a tremendous element of surprise and shock. They are a force multiplier," he said.

The Iraqis come from many different backgrounds. Their ages range from late teens to late 60s, and all of the major religious and ethnic groups of Iraq are represented among them: Arabic, Kurdish and Chaldean, as well as Sunni Muslim, Shiite Muslim and even Catholic.

Chris Roberts, NTC operations manager, said this diversity enables them to "represent multiple

places and set up multiple objectives" for the troops being trained. "You can set up a village and break it down into how many Arabic or Sunni or Shiite or Kurdish would actually be in the village in Iraq. So you can get a good sense of the religious and cultural clashes there," he said.

Despite their differences, the Iraqis all seem to agree that they are helping to create a better future for their country by participating in the training exercise.

"When I start working with you guys, I'm so happy. I feel like I'm doing something for my country," said Mony, a 25-year-old woman from northern Iraq who has been in the United States for more than two years. "Every time I come on rotation, I start crying for American Soldier. I want to say from all my heart I love American Soldier, and I pray every night that they will come back home to their country and their families," she added.

Sara, a Kurdish woman in her early 40s, shares Mony's sentiments. "I like to help, to do something. When you are a citizen, you must be proud and do something for the country you live in and your country too," she said.

Sara left Kurdistan, the northern region of Iraq, in 1972 and has lived all over Europe and the United States, but she said her heart has always remained there. She said she visits often and she thinks her people will be eternally grateful to the United States for invading Iraq to remove Saddam Hussein.

"We wait for this for a long time. They (American Soldiers) help us. We never forget that," she said.

Sara describes the difference in Kurdistan since

the United States set up a protectorate there in 1991 as "day and night."

"This is the first time Kurds have had freedom. You see the people's face. I went in 2000 and 2002, and they say, 'America is here; we are not afraid anymore,'" she said.

Sara is very optimistic about the country's future.

"For Kurdistan, I see everything – flowers, everything. For Iraq, it's going to take time, but it's coming. I say three to five years," she said.

Muhammad, a 40-year-old Iraqi Shiite veteran of the Iraq-Iran War, the first Gulf War and the 1991 uprisings against Saddam Hussein, agrees with Sara's assessment of Iraq's future, but he qualifies it.

"As long as they find someone (to lead) who is American educated, who has American mentality and has already lived in America and knows what freedom is worth, I think Iraq will survive and do well," he said.

Perhaps more than most, Muhammad knows what freedom is worth. As a young man, he was forced into the Republican Guard, the elite fighting force of the Iraqi Army at that time. For eight years, he fought on the front lines against Iran in some of the bloodiest battles in modern times.

"I fought without any pay, under severe aggression, tortured mentally and physically because I'm from the south and I'm Shiite, and Saddam used his own Sunni officers to control us – we all have to be in the front line to fight Iran all the time. He did that with us again when we invade Kuwait," Muhammad said.

In Kuwait ...

43rd ASG aids in cargo mission

by Spc. Brian Trapp
14th Public Affairs Detachment
CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait — Containers full

of supplies and equipment, without a destination or lacking documentation, end up lost in the system from time to time.

Like an animal shelter for Army supplies, Camp Arifjan's cargo yard, takes these containers with no home, documents them, enters them into the supply system and sees if an owner pops up or if there's someone else in theater who wants them.

The cargo mission, part of the Task Order 58 Container Yard, is putting millions of dollars worth of lost equipment back into the supply system.

"The containers are full of all types of undocumented stuff, things the Army has ordered and for some reason or another it didn't get to the customer and ended up back here," said Lt. Col. Cliff Hoppman, support operations officer with 43rd Area Support Group. "We return it to the supply system because it's sitting in the container, and it's not doing anyone any good there."

The operation started more than a month ago with 206 containers that were opened and the contents sorted. That phase ended Jan. 8, and now

those on the job are in the process of returning the equipment to warehouses. As of Jan. 14 about \$3.1 million worth of equipment had been catalogued, and the project is expected to continue for at least another month, Hoppman said.

Soldiers with the 251st Cargo Transfer Company and the 499th Quartermaster Company, both attached to the 43rd Area Support Group, are doing the bulk of the work. They work sunup to sundown, opening each container, inventorying the contents and classifying the items to re-enter into the supply system. They moved through the containers at a pace of 10 to 15 a day,

said Staff Sgt. Brandon Weaver, site supervisor with the 499th.

Each container was an unknown until the team of Soldiers cracked open the doors on the containers and saw what was waiting for them. Sometimes it was a jumble of wood and repair parts tossed together so haphazardly that it looked like the con-

tainer was rolled over a couple times before arriving in the container yard. Sometimes the containers were full of high-tech aviation electronics with parts worth tens of thousands of dollars.

"We've been finding a lot of pretty high-end items, like laser sights for tanks and up armor components," Weaver said. "It's unreal, the stuff and the condition we find it in. We don't get to keep it, but we send it where it needs to be."

"Every day is Christmas here," said Hoppman. "You don't know what you're going to get until you open the box."

The Soldiers find all types of equipment inside the containers; repair parts, construction materials, computers, radios valued at \$20,000 each, computers, Kevlar blankets and "enough batteries to power every toy in Wal-Mart," Hoppman said.

When the containers are opened, the Soldiers try to identify the contents by looking for national stock numbers or serial numbers and entering them into the supply system, to see if a cluepops up, said Lt. Col. Robert White, officer in charge of the Task Order 58 Yard and support operations officer with the 377th Theater Support Command. If someone requested it, it will come up, and then the equipment can be pushed forward to that person or someone in theater.

The troops in the cargo yard are in a race against time. With the surge coming on, they will likely be pulled away for other duties until their time to redeploy in about a month.

"The containers are full of all types of undocumented stuff, things the Army has ordered and for some reason or another it didn't get to the customer and ended up back here."

Lt. Col. Cliff Hoppman,
support operations, 43rd Area
Support Group.

Mandatory training requirements

DOD course for shipping HAZMAT

by **Jim Wagner and Tom Evans**
Defense Ammunition Center

The Department of Defense has a mandatory training requirement for all personnel involved with the preparation and shipment of hazardous materials.

This requirement is in accordance with Department of Defense 4500.9-R, Defense Transportation Regulation, as well as the 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Subpart H.

Personnel who certify hazardous material on shipping papers by any mode of transportation, military or commercial, must successfully complete an initial 80 hour hazardous material certification course from one of the four DOD schools. The four schools are the Defense Ammunition Center,

McAlester, Okla.; School of Military Packaging Technology, Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Md.; Training Squadron, Transportation Training Flight, Lackland Air Force Base, Texas; and the Navy Supply School, Athens, Ga. After attending the initial 80-hour course, refresher training is required every two years.

The Defense Ammunition Center's 80-hour course, Technical Transportation of Hazardous Materials, AMMO-62, provides detailed technical information pertaining to all modes of transportation of hazardous materials. The course satisfies the mandatory training requirements for persons who certify hazardous materials and conduct function specific training for sub-

ordinate personnel as specified in the DOD 4500.9-R.

Course content covers the Department of Transportation 49 CFR; DOD 4500.9-R and the Air Force Interservice Manual AFMAN 24-204(I). International regulations covered include the International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code and the International Air Transport Association Dangerous Goods Regulations. AMMO-62 emphasizes hazard communications (i.e., shipping papers, marking, labeling and placarding), packaging, compatibility, security requirements and emergency response information. This is a college-level course and students may be granted four semester hours of lower level baccalaureate credits.

The classes are held at DAC and at nine Accredited Off Campus Instructor sites: Fort Hood, Texas; Fort Carson; Fort Lewis, Wash.; Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; Fort Campbell, Ky.; Fort Bragg, N.C.; Fort Stewart, Ga.; Camp Robinson, Ark.; and 7th ATC, Vilseck, Germany.

As noted above, classes are held locally with the DAC AOCI's at the Education Center, building 1117. To schedule students in classes, unit training NCOs should contact G3/Individual Military Training, at 526-2112 or 526-5436.

Local AOIs are Jim Wagner and Tom Evans at 524-1241 and 524-2740, building 1117, rooms 206 and 207, respectively.

Iraqi nationals

From Page 8

After eight years, he had enough. He deserted the Iraqi Army in the first Gulf War and eventually became a refugee in Saudi Arabia. Eventually, he came to the United States.

Muhammad said he hopes his experiences will benefit 3rd ACR troops.

"I want them to learn Iraqi mentality. I teach

them the language and culture. Hopefully, they will remember what I tell them about to be cautious, about the insurgents, about their way to fight, their tactics. I'm sure this program will help them a lot," he said.

Muhammad is also sure the Soldiers' presence in Iraq will help his country.

"I can say from deep down in my heart that this is the best thing that ever happened to Iraq and the Iraqi people," he said.

He and his family in Iraq are closely following

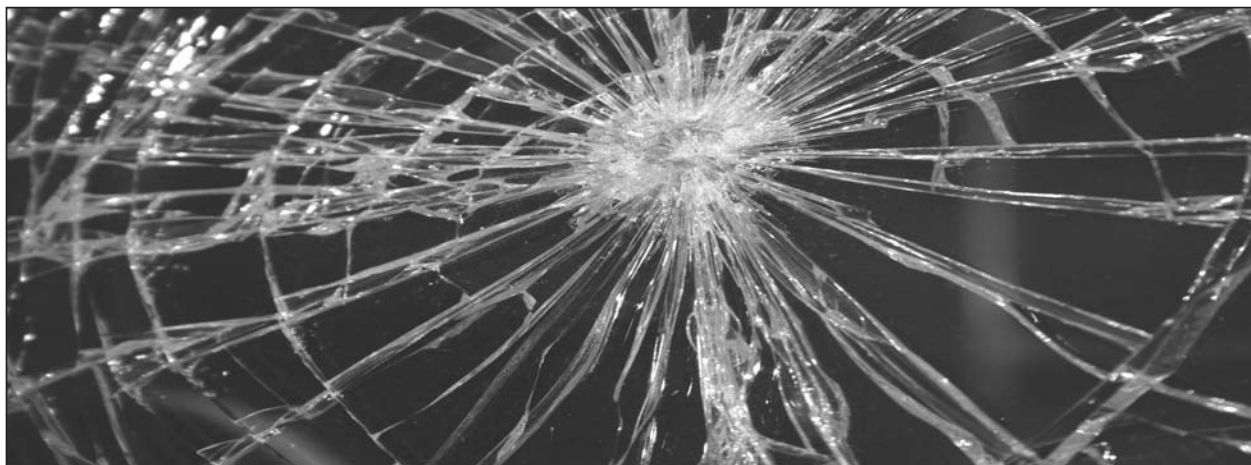
the upcoming elections.

"So far, my family likes everyone they have been seeing on TV. They talk very rationally, and they are intelligent. But if you want to know the truth, whoever comes to lead Iraq will be way fairer and better than what we had," he said.

His main concern is that U.S. troops will stay in Iraq for as long as it takes to stabilize the country.

"I would like to see them stay there for as long as they can. The dust won't settle until they get the last insurgent, the last bad guy," he said.

Community



Domestic violence

Shattering families and military careers

by Pfc. Clint Stein
Mountaineer staff

In 2003, there were an astonishing 51 preventable fatalities in Colorado, not from hunting accidents or drinking and driving, but as a result of domestic violence.

Unfortunately, domestic violence is not limited to altercations among civilian couples or their families, but military families as well.

Last year there were several domestic violence cases filed at Fort Carson. Domestic violence calls account for the majority of response calls made to the military police.

Although domestic violence at Fort Carson is a serious issue, statistically the number of domestic violence cases are not that different than the civilian population.

"Soldiers aren't any more likely to be involved in domestic disputes than any other people just because they're military," said Jill Nugin, a Family Advocacy Program coordinator. "Soldiers just have different kinds of stress in their families."

After Soldiers from Fort Carson were redeployed from Iraq last year they were sent to a class conducted by the FAP in order to better help them adjust to being back with their families. The briefing is now a mandatory program when Soldiers are redeployed to Carson.

"That's the difference between the way the military views domestic violence and civilian employers," said Nugin. "The Army has a more proactive approach to it."

According to a DuPage County Bar Association brief in Illinois, many civilian employers do not think they should become involved in preventing domestic violence and that it is a personal matter to be best handled within the family. However, almost 50 percent of senior managers think domestic violence has a negative effect on their companies due to the

increased levels of absenteeism, low productivity and higher health cost. In fact, it is estimated that higher medical cost and diminished productivity levels cost civilian employers between \$3 and \$5 billion every year with an additional \$100 million in lost wages, paid sick leave and absenteeism linked to domestic violence.

Fort Carson helps to control domestic violence related problems with a variety of programs designed to help families cope with their stress. The FAP, chaplains and Social Services all have information, counseling or courses to help those who think they may have stress. A one- to two-hour educational program on the dynamics and cycle of family violence is a family violence awareness class that is part of annual training for Soldiers.

Unfortunately, there are people who do not take advantage of these programs and end up paying the price.

"If the MPs are called out to a residence on a domestic dispute call and there are signs of physical contact, someone will be arrested," said Staff Sgt. Tonya Hauert, 148th MP Detachment.

After a Soldier is arrested for domestic violence, he may be charged with assault under Article 128 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice. The punishments for such an offense could range from counseling to a trial by court martial. The maximum penalty could include dishonorable discharge, forfeiture of pay and allowances, reduction to E-1 and confinement for up to 10 years.

In many cases, when the MPs are called to a residence for domestic

disputes, there usually have been heated arguments between spouses.

"The MPs will look for probable cause for arrest, but if there are no signs of physical contact no charges will be filed," said Hauert.

Many times a Soldier will be separated from his

Signs of domestic abuse

- Physical marks or bruises
- Low self-esteem or does not trust in their own judgment or abilities
- Socially isolated
- Severe stress reactions with psychological and physiological complaints, i.e. stomach disorders or migraines
- Too compliant and passive

Personal questions about domestic abuse

- Does your spouse's temper frighten you?
- Has your spouse hit, kicked, shoved or thrown things at you?
- Has your spouse threatened, humiliated, verbally or sexually abused you?
- Do you feel like you are being controlled or isolated by your partner?
- Does your partner regularly blame you for things that you could not control?
- Are you afraid of doing the "wrong" thing, even if you're not sure what that is?
- Do you live in constant fear for yourself or your children?

If any of these questions or signs apply to you, contact the military police at 526-2333, Social Work Services at 526-4585, the Victim Advocacy Program at 526-4590 or at the pager number 577-3171 to seek help and counseling.

Editor's note: This information was provided by the Victim Advocacy Program located inside the Family Readiness Center in building 1526, next to the commissary.

spouse for a minimum of 24 hours to give time for the parties involved to calm down, added Hauert.

For information about the services available, contact the Family Advocacy Program, located inside the Family Readiness Center building, at 526-4590.

Did you know?

Under the Lautenberg Amendment to the Gun Control Act, it is unlawful for any person who has been convicted of a misdemeanor or felony crime of domestic violence to ship, transport, possess or receive firearms or ammunition, which means a career ender for most Soldiers.

Post chaplains helping build strong families

by Sgt. Jon Wiley
Mountaineer staff

"The Army didn't issue you a family" — if a supervisor has ever said this to you to suggest you should dismiss your family obligations, chances are you've been wearing the green suit for quite a while.

For years now, the Army has recognized that building and maintaining strong and healthy military families is a cost-effective way to promote Soldier readiness. Soldiers with strong, loving support at home are more likely to be fit to fight than those who have tumultuous home lives. Fighting wars in the nation's defense is easier when there are no wars on the homefront to contend with too, it seems.

In recognition of this fact, the Army has modified and expanded its Building Strong and Ready Families program. The program started at Fort Carson in 2002 and teaches couples communication skills that help marriages survive and even thrive despite the difficult and often stressful circumstances every military family faces, said Maj. James Bixler, Fort Carson's Family Life Chaplain.

The program was originally developed in response to a commander's concerns in the 25th Infantry Division, headquartered in Hawaii.

"The commander was extremely concerned about the numerous difficulties he saw young families having, and he wanted to give them some resources that would help people deal with the harsh realities of being a family in the military," Bixler said.

As a result, a chaplain and community nurse in Hawaii did some research and discovered a program that was developed by the University of Denver, called the Preventive Relationship Enhancement Program, or PREP for short.

PREP is based on 30 years of research, Bixler said. To develop this program, researchers at the University of Denver studied relationship patterns

and identified several key behaviors that led to unhealthy relationships. They also identified techniques that successful couples employ to resolve their conflicts. Using this research, they designed PREP to help couples see the counterproductive behaviors they engage in and to replace them with more effective ones.

The Army incorporated PREP strategies into its BSRF program training.

When couples use these strategies, "the University of Denver has found 70 percent of their conflicts just go away, which is a pretty amazing statistic," Bixler said.

The main concept behind the skills the program teaches couples is fairly straightforward.

Most simply put, it teaches that conflicts result between two people "when neither person feels like they are being heard or understood," Bixler said, "so they escalate behaviors that don't work. They start yelling at one another and a whole litany of things — it can even go up to where it becomes physical violence."

The intent of BSRF training is to get people to recognize these unhelpful behaviors and replace them with "a simple technique where they can talk to each other in such a way where both people really believe they are being heard and understood," Bixler said.

It sounds simple, but Bixler warns couples not to confuse simple with easy.

He said, "It's like any skill. The skill can be simple. Marksmanship is pretty simple, for example, but it isn't always easy to exercise."

As any Soldier can attest to, knowing the four fundamentals of marksmanship — proper aiming, breathing, trigger squeeze and steady positioning — doesn't mean one can shoot expertly. Beyond just knowledge, mastering marksmanship or any other skill requires practice, and practice is a key part of the BSRF program.



Photo by Sgt. Jon Wiley

Fort Carson's program, Building Strong and Ready Families, teaches couples communication skills that help marriages survive despite stressful circumstances.

What's valuable and unique about this program is that it doesn't just give couples information about a conflict resolution skill; it also "gives couples the opportunity to practice it with coaches who can help them realize they've gotten away from the technique and have gotten back to behaviors that don't work," Bixler said.

Like with any other effective skill training, the BSRF program also incorporates a follow-up component.

"Again, it's just like any other skill. You train people on it, but if it's something they have to use frequently you want to do reinforcement training. So usually there is follow-up training four to six weeks afterward to reinforce what people have learned," Bixler said.

Usually, Soldiers and their spouses will receive this training before they deploy or after they return from a deployment, but it is taught regularly at Fort Carson's Army Community Services, Bixler said.

If Soldiers or their family mem-

bers are interested, they can also contact their unit chaplains and find out if funding is available to teach the training.

The Department of the Army is encouraging units to offer this training to Soldiers, Bixler said.

"The Department of Defense has budgeted money for this to happen. In fact, a law was changed so we can now take families to retreat-like settings (to do the training). Before we couldn't (use tax dollars) for this, but now we can. So this is not just a local effort; it's something that's being emphasized from the Department of the Army on down," he said.

So, the Army may not have issued you a family, but its top officials have recognized the importance of your family's success to the success of the overall mission.

Those interested in finding out more about the BSRF program should contact their unit chaplains Fort Carson's ACS at 526-0445 or Bixler at 526-6917.

Community Briefs

Miscellaneous

Black History Month events — There will be a gospel concert Feb. 3 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Provider Chapel in celebration of Black History Month. If you would like to participate, call 526-4413 or 526-5818.

Celebrate the history of Black American spirituals through modern gospel music.

The 5th Annual Drum Gathering is Feb. 5 from noon to 6 p.m. at the Hillside Community Center in Colorado Springs. More information is available by calling (303) 450-1245.

Ski trips — Fort Carson Information, Tickets and Registration office has a ski trip Saturday to Monarch Ski Resort. The price is \$49 for adults and \$29 for children. Price includes lift ticket and transportation. The price for just transportation is \$15 for adults and children.

There will be a ski trip Saturday to Ski Cooper. The price is \$99 for adults and \$75 for children and that price includes two lift tickets, transportation and lodging for one night.

For more information, call 526-5366 or 526-6590.

Movies — The Freedom Performing Arts Center, building 1129, is showing the following movies for free:

Saturday — "Spider-man 2"

Jan. 29 — "Harry Potter and Prisoner of Azkaban."

Tax information gathering — There will be an informational meeting at the Grant Library Community Room Feb. 16 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. to discuss how to maximize your money and minimize your tax burden. Erin Escobar, a certified public accountant, and Kam Ness will be the presenters. Attendees are asked to bring a lunch, but drinks and dessert will be provided. Call Pat at 526-5818 for more information. This event is sponsored by the Fort Carson Special Emphasis Program.

"B" Street Shoppette hours — The shoppette at "B" Street is now open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Fort Carson Officers' Spouses' Club membership sign-up and bingo game — The Fort Carson Officers' Spouses' Club is hosting a bingo game at the Elkhorn Conference Center at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday. You must be a member to play. General membership sign-up will be prior to the game from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. The bingo game will start afterward. If you would like to join the FCOSC or learn about the the programs and functions, attend the meeting. For information or to RSVP to the bingo game by today, call Kelli at 559-6421 or Ann at 559-7838.

Alcoholics anonymous meeting — There will be an alcoholics anonymous meeting every Wednesday at Soldiers' Memorial Chapel at 7 p.m. Anyone can attend the meeting. Call Frank A. at 322-9766 for more information.

Middle East classes — Afghanistan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq — these countries are at the center of world politics and American foreign policy. America's continued military presence in the Middle East demands Soldiers who are capable of operating effectively among local populations and earning trust.

The Extended Studies Program at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs brings four new credit courses to the Fort Carson Army Education Center that will answer these questions. The courses comprise the new Certificate in Middle Eastern Studies and are designed to help

Soldiers prepare for deployment to the Middle East. The certificate program includes:

- Two courses of language instruction in either Arabic or Farsi
- One course in cultural awareness
- One course dealing with Islamic philosophy and history following the fall of the Ottoman Empire

All courses are accredited and may be applied to degree programs at UCCS or other universities.

These courses are offered only at the education center at Fort Carson. Classes begin Monday. Tuition is \$159 per credit hour, and military tuition assistance is accepted.

Visit <http://web.uccs.edu/extendedstudies>, to request a registration form or to get more information or visit the Fort Carson Education Center, building 1117, room 322, from 3 to 5 p.m., the second and fourth and Tuesdays of the month or visit room 321, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., the first and third Tuesdays of the month.

Charitable donations — Twice a year the Fort Carson Officers' Spouses Club distributes charitable monies to assist and support nonprofit organizations. The FCOSC is currently accepting applications for consideration of these funds. Disbursement is in late April following a review and selection process of all applications by the FCOSC. To request an application, contact Bambi Brimmer, FCOSC Welfare Chairperson by e-mail at fortcarson_officersspousesclub@yahoo.com or via P.O. Box 12886, Fort Carson, CO 80913. All applications must be postmarked by March 14.

Education hours changed — The following services have been changed from their regular operating hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday). The remainder of the education center will be open for services as always.

The Military Occupational Specialty Library will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The MOS library will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday to Friday, except all holidays.

Microsoft certification — There are 2,140 vouchers available to active duty and Reserve component personnel to take the Microsoft certification test free of charge. Prospective military members must complete the Microsoft Certification Test Application located on the DANTES Web site at www.dantes.doded.mil. The application can be found under the "Certification Programs" section. The test is given in Colorado Springs at: New Horizons, 1755 Telstar Drive, telephone number 380-0300.

Questions regarding the vouchers are to be addressed to certprog@voled.doded.mil, or DSN 922-13609, or 850-452-1360.

Veterinary Treatment Facility

As of Jan. 1, the Fort Carson Veterinary Treatment Facility will be expanding to better serve its clients. It will be open for sales Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Appointments will be available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3:30 p.m. It will be closed on federal holidays.

Vet services — The VTF is capable of providing preventive medical services as well as diagnosing and treating mild and acute illnesses. It is not designed to treat chronic problems or problems previously diagnosed by civilian veterinarians.

Its primary function is to protect the health of the military community by issuing travel health certificates, providing pets with vaccinations, providing testing for and prevention of parasites, and diagnosing and treating conditions which may be transmissible from pets to humans. Other conditions may be diagnosed or treated as time and clinic capabilities allow. It will work to provide Fort Carson pets with as much care as possible, within the confines of our capabilities and applicable regulations. In most instances, it will strive to



Army Community Service
Family Readiness Center, Bldg 1526
TEL: (719) 526-4590

Seeking employment? If so, attend our

JOB SEARCH Orientation

The Employment Readiness Program invites all employment seekers to attend a job search orientation. This orientation will offer information on the current Fort Carson and Colorado Springs job market and what assistance is available to you. Representatives from various companies will discuss their agencies and employment opportunities. For more information or to register, call (719) 526-4590 or 526-0452.



For more information or to register, call (719) 526-4590 or 526-0452.

Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday
10:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. or 1:45 P.M. to 2:45 P.M.
Family Readiness Center, Bldg. 1526

RESUME REVIEW is available by appointment only on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Limited childcare is available. Contact the Employment Readiness Program for more information, (719) 526-4590 or 526-0452.

reach a diagnosis of your pet's condition. However, once it has been confirmed that your pet's condition is not transmissible to people or will require diagnostics not available in our clinic, patients will be advised to seek civilian care.

The VTF offers limited surgical services for pets. It offers procedures such as teeth cleanings and spay/neuter services. The number of procedures performed is limited both by regulations and time available. In an effort to make services available to those who may need them most, Soldiers E4 and below have the first opportunity to schedule surgeries each month. (Soldiers E4 and below may call from the first through the fifth of each month to schedule surgeries for the month. All other active-duty Soldiers and retirees may call after the fifth of each month.)

The Waa-Nibe Carson House — is available for family readiness group meetings, unit functions, promotion parties or personal use. It's located beside the thrift shop in building 1007. For more information, call Leslie Glad at 392-4072.

SKIES Unlimited — Fort Carson Child and Youth Service's instructional program has added a variety of new classes this fall. Registration is being taken for piano and keyboard, Spanish, arts and crafts, sign language, Tae Kwon Do, ballet, swimming and gymnastics lessons.

Additional classes beginning this fall will include defensive driving, hand bells, public speaking for teens, roller skating for ages 3 to 18 and tutors. Call 524-2896 for more information.

Claims against the estate

With deepest regrets to the family of Air Force Tech. Sgt. Randy R. Cross, deceased. Anyone having claims against or indebtedness to his estate should call Lt. Col. Bradon Wagoner at 684-5060.

Chaplain's Corner

Tsunami brings epic ramifications

**Commentary by Bruce T. Sidebotham
chaplain candidate**

Because I spent nearly seven years living on Sumatra just a few hundred miles from the epicenter of the recent tsunami-causing quake, my perspective may be unusual. This disaster is not only epic for its proportions, but also for the geographic and political changes that will result.

Long before Sept. 11, a close friend recounted to me his late night experience in Aceh of watching dugout canoes ferry rifles and grenades from a ship offshore. He told me of conversations at a remote jungle camp with young men being trained to use those weapons by other young men from Afghanistan.

Aceh has been to the country of Indonesia what

the city of Falusia is to Iraq, what the Gaza Strip is to Israel, what the province of Chechnya is to Russia, and what the country of Afghanistan used to be for the world. Indonesians call it "the Veranda of Mecca." Since the downfall of former President Suharto, Aceh has become more than just Indonesia's most fundamentalist province and a safe haven for insurgents. As Indonesia's only province under shari'a Muslim law, the methods used to win some autonomy and concessions have become an inspiration and model for extremist movements elsewhere as they bomb hotels, burn churches and cleanse villages of their Christians.

I would never say that this natural disaster falling upon Aceh is a divine "judgment," but this "act of God" will profoundly affect the appeal and exporta-

bility of extremism from Aceh. Fundamentalist clerics in Aceh may be saying this tragedy happened because their people need to be more devout and less compromising, but what will less extreme Muslims elsewhere who were spared from this disaster be thinking about divine approval?

Ted Haggard, who presides as president over the National Association of Evangelicals and pastors New Life Church in Colorado Springs, said about the tsunami Jan. 2, "I'm not talking about judgment. I'm talking about a great opportunity, an opportunity unlike any time in the last thousand years."

Massive aid and even military spending on Aceh meets more than just humanitarian concerns. It also addresses strategic concerns for global peace and security.

Wiccans mark Imbolc — festival during spring quickening

**Courtesy Fort Carson Command
Chaplain Office**

Wiccans mark Imbolc (pronounced "IM-bulk" or "EM-bowlk") Feb. 2. Imbolc means "in the belly," a reference to the seeds of life ready to stir again in the cold Earth.

On this day was celebrated the first lactation of the ewes and at this time the herd animals have either given birth to the first offspring of the year or their wombs are swollen and the "milk of life" is flowing. Imbolc is a festival of waxing light and purification, heralding the poten-

tial of spring. It is the "quickening" time of the year. Wiccans revere Imbolc as a time for offering evidence of their inspiration and creativity, demonstrating their capacity for personal spiritual rebirth along with the season.

Folklore associated with Imbolc tells that corn dollies were created from oat or wheat straw and placed in baskets with white flower bedding. Young girls then would carry them door-to-door and gifts were bestowed upon the image from each household. Afterward, at the traditional feast, the

older women would make special acorn wands for the dollies to hold. Crosses were fashioned from wheat stalks and exchanged as symbols of protection and prosperity for the coming year. Home hearth fires were extinguished then re-lit, and a broom was placed by the front door to symbolize sweeping out the old and welcoming the new.

Today, they celebrate this holiday by lighting gold candles and placing them in windows to honor the returning of the sun. They cleanse and bless the homes, similar to the traditional

spring cleaning. They seek inspiration and purify ourselves of limiting thoughts and negative attitudes.

Wiccans participate in stone gathering and snow hikes in search of the first signs of spring. Dairy foods are particularly appropriate to eat during this celebrational feast. They leave milk and buttered bread on doorsteps as an offering to spring. They meditate upon growth in health and strength during the year; for themselves, their families, communities, and the earth and ask for blessings on their prayers.

New baby at home? Don't forget to enroll in TRICARE

Courtesy TriWest Healthcare Alliance

Life can get hectic when there's a new addition to the family, but don't let time slip away before enrolling the new loved one in TRICARE's Prime health care plan.

Parents have 60 days from the birth or adoption of TRICARE eligible children to enroll them in TRICARE Prime to help avoid delays or gaps in processing health care claims.



Children must be registered in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System database within the first 60 days of their life or adoption or they will not show as being eligible for TRICARE Prime benefits.

To register, obtain a copy of the child's birth certificate, certificate of live birth

or adoption papers and file it with the post personnel office. If the sponsor is deployed or on temporary duty, the other parent or a guardian should be prepared to show power of attorney to register.

For questions about TRICARE coverage, visit www.triwest.com, call (888) TRIWEST or (888) 874-9378, or contact the DEERS support office at (800) 538-9552 from 6 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Pacific time Monday through Friday.

Chapel

Prayer breakfast — Fort Carson Unit Ministry Team Sponsors the National Prayer Breakfast Feb. 10 with breakfast beginning at 6:30 a.m., and the program begins at 7 a.m. at the Sheraton Hotel, 2886 S. Circle Dr., Colorado Springs.

Chuck Dean will be the guest speaker. Dean has served as the national chaplain for the 173rd Airborne Brigade Society. He is author of several books addressing the issues that Soldiers experience during and after war.

For more information, call the Prussman Chapel at 524-2871.

Awana — The Fort Carson Awana Club meets at Soldiers' Memorial Chapel Thursdays from 5 to 7 p.m.

Awana is an international, nondenominational organization. Its goal is to reach young people with the gospel of Christ, and train them to serve him. For more than 50 years Awana clubs have been reaching this goal through meetings that include fast paced and exciting games, scripture memorization and Bible-based lessons.

The Fort Carson club has spaces available for children from 3 years of age to 8th grade. We are also looking for committed individuals with a heart for teaching children Gods' word to be on our leadership team.

To register your children or for more information, contact Stacy Chapman at 382-3970.

Chapel Schedule

ROMAN CATHOLIC

Day	Time	Service	Chapel	Location	Contact Person
Mon., Wed., Fri.	noon	Mass	Healer	Evans Army Hospital	Fr. Battiato/649-5260
Tues., Wed., Thurs.	noon	Mass	Soldiers'	Nelson & Martinez	Chap. Amano/526-5769
Saturday	5 p.m.	Mass	Soldiers'	Nelson & Martinez	Chap. Amano/526-5769
Sunday	8 a.m.	Mass	Prussman	Barkeley & Prussman	Chap. Amano/526-5769
Sunday	9:15 a.m.	Mass	Soldiers'	Nelson & Martinez	Chap. Amano/526-5769
Sunday	10:45 a.m.	CRE	Soldiers'	Nelson & Martinez	Pat Treacy/524-2458
Sunday	11 a.m.	Mass	Healer	Evans Army Hospital	Fr. Battiato/649-5260
Sunday	12:15 p.m.	Mass	Provider	Barkeley & Ellis	Chap. Amano/526-5769
Tuesday	7 p.m.	RCIA	Soldiers'	Nelson & Martinez	Pat Treacy/524-2458
Saturday	4 p.m.	Reconciliation	Soldiers'	Nelson & Martinez	Chap. Amano/526-5769

PROTESTANT

Sunday	9 a.m.	Protestant	Healer	Evans Army Hospital	Chap. Kincaid/526-7387
Sunday	9 a.m.	Protestant	Provider	Barkeley & Ellis	Chap. Borden/526-3711
Sunday	11 a.m.	Protestant	Soldiers'	Nelson & Martinez	Chap. Deppmeir/526-8011
Sunday	11 a.m.	Prot./Gospel	Prussman	Barkeley & Prussman	Chap. Bowman/526-5513
Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Sun. School	Prussman	Barkeley & Prussman	Chap. Bowman/526-5513
Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Sun. School	Soldiers'	Nelson & Martinez	Dr. Scheck/526-5626
Tuesday	9 a.m.	PWOC	Soldiers'	Nelson & Martinez	Chap. Deppmeir/526-8011
Sunday	11 a.m.	Contemporary	Veterans'	Magrath & Titus	Chap. Martinez/526-8890
Tuesday	7 p.m.	PYOC	Soldiers'	Nelson & Martinez	Ms. Scheck/231-9511

LITURGICAL

Sunday	10:45 a.m.	Lutheran/Anglican	Provider	Barkeley & Ellis	Chap. Mitchell/526-3888
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JEWISH

For information and a schedule of Jewish Sabbath services, call the U.S. Air Force Academy Cadet Chapel at 333-2636.

WICCA

Monday	6:30 p.m.	Family University	Building 1161	Melissa Dalugdu/330-7873
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NATIVE AMERICAN SWEATLODGE

Native American Sweatlodge ceremonies (He Ska Akicita Inipi) are offered to military dependents and Department of Defense personnel for traditional prayer and purification. Fasting before the ceremony is recommended and refreshments are offered following the ceremony. Please call the following for information and directions: Michael Dunning 382-5331 or 330-9537, or Zoe Goodblanket 442-0929.

Daily Bible readings: In order to assist in regular scripture reading, the following scriptures are recommended. These scriptures are part of the common daily lectionary which is designed to present the entire Bible over a three-year cycle.

Friday — Psalms 49 & Genesis 19-21

Saturday — Psalms 50 & Genesis 22-24

Sunday — Psalms 51 & Genesis 25-27

Monday — Psalms 52 & Genesis 28-30

Tuesday — Psalms 53 & Genesis 31-33

Wednesday — Psalms 54 & Genesis 34-36

Thursday — Psalms 55 & Genesis 37-39

The Army Cycle of Prayer — Each week, the Office of the Army Chief of Chaplains will highlight Army units, the Army at large, the nation and religious organizations to focus prayer. You are invited to join with the chaplain community and pray for these individuals and organizations.

The Army Cycle of Prayer. Please pray this week for the following:

Unit: For the Soldiers, families and leaders of the 1st Cavalry Division, headquartered at Fort Hood, Texas, extended to support elections in Iraq.

Army: For the dedicated officers, non-commissioned officers, Soldiers and veterans of the Cavalry Corps, with its regimental home located at Fort Knox, Ky.

State: For all Soldiers and their families from the state of Louisiana. Pray also

for Gov. Kathleen Blanco and the state legislators and municipal officials of the "Pelican State."

Nation: For the five members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, chaired by Gen. Richard B. Myers, and their task of advising the president and Secretary of Defense on all military issues.

Religious: For the clergy and congregations of the American Baptist Churches, and for the chaplains endorsed for military ministry by that community of faith. Churches/Churches of Christ, and for the chaplains endorsed for military ministry by that community of faith. For more information on the Army Cycle of Prayer, or to pray for items from previous weeks, visit the cycle's Web site at www.usarmychaplain.com.



Rorion Gracie, from the Gracie Jui-Jitsu Academy, instructs Staff Sgts. Matthew L. Davis, bottom, and Brendon Murphy, both from Company E, 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry, on the proper hold during combatives training at the Special Events Center Jan. 13. Gracie, and his son Ralek, taught Soldiers from the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division the jui-jitsu tactics during a week-long block of instruction at the Mountain Post.

Photos by Spc. Zach Mott



Above: Sgt. 1st Class Sinath Kuch, Battery B, 3rd Battalion, 29th Field Artillery, learns a subduing technique first-hand from Rorion Gracie at the Special Events Center during Army combatives training.



Above: Sgt. 1st Class Sinath Kuch, Battery B, 3rd Battalion, 29th Field Artillery, practices one of the grips taught by Rorion Gracie.

Left: Spc. Thomas Neaverth, 3rd Special Troops Battalion, tries to get the upper hand on Sgt. Erik Morrow, Company C, 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry, during combatives training.



Gracies teach Jiu-Jitsu skills

by Spc. Zach Mott
Mountaineer staff

Imagine learning basketball from James Naismith in 1891 on the courts of Springfield, Mass., or baseball from Abner Doubleday in the mid-1800s in Cooperstown, N.Y.

This is the feeling 50 Soldiers from the 3rd Brigade Combat Team had Jan. 17 to 20 as they learned Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu from the first family of the sport.

Rorion Gracie and son Ralek visited the Mountain Post to teach basic escape moves in case the Soldiers are ever caught in a fight on the ground.

"In today's war, they can find themselves in a lot of urban combat, breaking doors and going into a house where they might get

jumped by someone," Rorion said.

This training — which these 50 Soldiers will instruct their fellow Soldiers on when they return to their unit — will enable the 3rd BCT to better subdue suspected insurgents.

"The Soldiers are able to subdue the person without any fear of the subject doing anything to them without really damaging the subject," said Spc. Vellore Caballero, a medic with 2nd Squadron, 9th Cavalry. "I think it's invaluable to us to be able to have options out there."

Caballero is a jiu-jitsu veteran who said this training may not have been new to him, but he learned the meaning behind the moves. "They're showing me things that I can use that I didn't know," he said.

Soldiers attending this class said that during the first deployment to Iraq they did not have an effective way to subdue a suspected enemy other than to use brute force.

"Now, it's not going to be a surprise to them anymore on how to handle that type of situation," Rorion said. "They're getting more confident and more proficient in how to defend themselves."

The Gracie family offers this training — as well as a law enforcement version — to a variety of units. Rorion said they have been to Fort Campbell, Ky., Fort Lewis, Wash., and Korea, instructing the Soldiers there.

Information about how to schedule the Gracies to come to your unit is available at www.gracieacademy.com.



Out & About

Jan 21 - 28, 2005

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- * SKIES Unlimited programs ~ 524-2896
- * Ski Cooper Trip ~ Jan 22 - 23 ~ Tickets at ITR ~ 526-5366
- * Free 1:00 matinee ~ Jan 22 ~ "Spiderman 2" ~ 526-1867
- * Free 1:00 matinee ~ Jan 29 ~ "Harry Potter" ~ 526-1867
- * International Cup Wrestling Championship ~
Jan 28 - 29 ~ 524-1163
- * Buns on the Run 5K/1 mile walk
and Health Fair ~ Feb 9 ~ 526-9120

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH
THE NIAGARA MOVEMENT
FEBRUARY**

*containing among other things the following
to wit:
"year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-four"*

**CELEBRATE AMERICAN HERITAGE
BLACK HISTORY MONTH
FEBRUARY 2005**

sponsored by: Directorate of Morale, Welfare & Recreation, EO and EEO

<p>Booker T. Washington</p> <p>February 3rd: Gospel Concert Provider Chapel 6:30pm - 8:00pm</p> <p>February 12th: "And the Children Will Lead" "Ray" Freedom Performing Arts Center 1:00 pm - 3:27 pm</p> <p>February 24th: John Sebastian Black History Children's Storyteller Grant Library Children's Room 6:30pm - 7:30pm</p>	<p>George Washington Carver</p> <p>February 24th: Our Black History Celebration Elkhorn Catterring & Conference Center 11:00am - 2:00pm</p> <p>All month long: Indoor Swimming Pools Every Thursday in February Family Night - free swim Activities at all CYS facilities Community Craft Center Buffalo Soldier Prints (available for resale through special order)</p>
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FOR UPCOMING PROGRAMS.**

Sports & Leisure

Youth basketball

Youth center begins winter season

by **Walt Johnson**
Mountaineer staff

Editor's note: The youth basketball season here will begin with an introduction program at 8 a.m. at the youth center. At this time, each of the teams, the players and coaches will be introduced.

Saturday will mark the beginning of the post youth center's winter basketball season and culminate the last two weeks of preparation by youth center teams.

This year's league will offer a lot of new faces, from the players to the coaches to the league administrators, and right now no one can say they know what to expect from the young hoopsters. That doesn't stop Stephanie Meyers, youth center assistant sports director, from believing this is going to be a fun year for the basketball players and their parents and fans.

"One thing we have seen during the pre-season is the kids and coaches have had such enthusiasm for our program. We think we are about to have one of the best programs we have had in years and we can't wait to get this year started," Meyers said.

One of the coaches who will start

on Saturday is Mel Arledge, who will be coaching the youth center's 3- to 4-year-old Tigers team. Arledge has a son on the team but he said he has other reasons to want to come out and coach the team this year.

"Coaching teams at this level is a challenge, but it's also a lot of fun. I have a little one on the team, and I will enjoy coaching him but I really am looking forward to being a part of the post youth activities program.

"It is so rewarding to be around the kids and watch them have fun and learn about the game. Of course they won't learn a whole lot about the game at this age but it's good to be able to watch them have fun. It is good to see the kids get to do some physical activity as opposed to them sitting in front of a television," Arledge said.

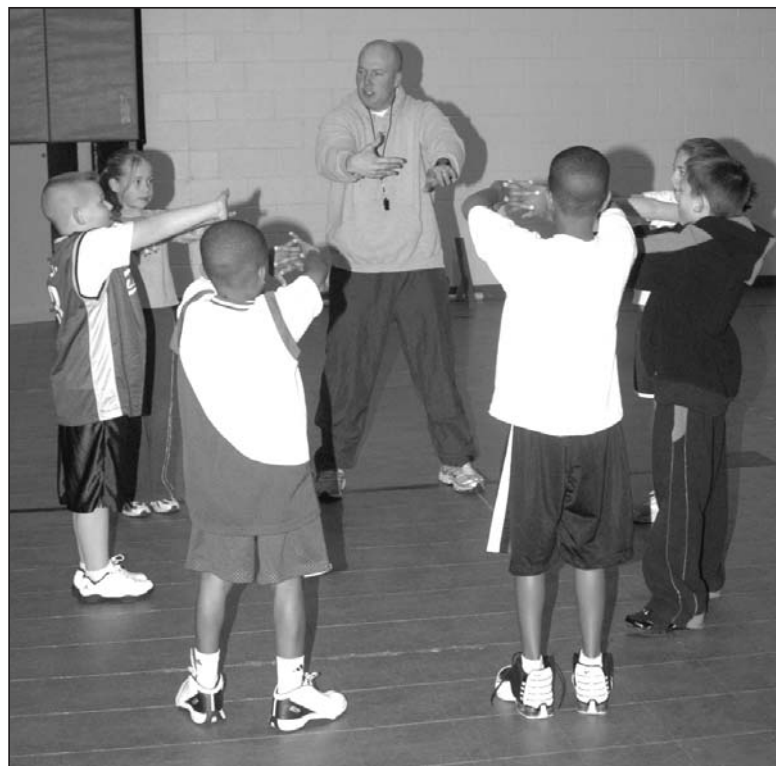
Arledge summed up the feeling of youth center program coaches when he said the goal is not winning or losing in this program.

"My goal for this year is that all the kids have fun, learn as much about the game as they possibly can, and it encourages them to want to come back and play in this program again," Arledge said.



Photos by Walt Johnson

Teresa Medina, left, Lakers coach, 10- to 12-year-old children, goes through dribbling techniques with her team.



Richard Burbey, center, does exercises with his Nuggets team, ages 7 to 9 years old, at the youth center.



Yvette Gonzalez, right, Sixers assistant coach for children 7 to 9 years old, passes out a uniform to Andrew Hamilton.

On the Bench

International wrestlers to compete on post

by **Walt Johnson**
Mountaineer staff

In less than two weeks, wrestling fans will have an opportunity to see many of the finest national and international wrestlers compete when the Kit Carson International Cup wrestling meet takes place Jan. 28 from 6 to 9 p.m. and 29 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Special Events Center.

Shon Lewis, U.S. Olympic wrestling, World Class Athlete Program and all-Army head coach, said four of the strongest wrestling countries in Europe will come to America to give the American team some much needed international competition.

Lewis said bringing this type of wrestling entertainment to the post community will be a treat for the athletes and the people of the community. He said people will see some of the best talent in Europe.

Lewis said the biggest reason to have this type of competition is preparation for the upcoming Olympics in Beijing. Lewis said in order to get the medal count up, the American team must get more international competition under its belt in the next three years.

The post men's team will take on the

See Bench, Page 21



Photo by Walt Johnson

Fort Carson's Keith Sieracki, right, shows a potential member of the upcoming U.S. Olympic team some wrestling techniques during a recent workout at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs.

Bench

From Page 20

Colorado Springs Ballers at 1 p.m. at the Special Events Center also on Saturday. The women's team will travel to Otero Junior College for a game at 1 p.m.

Forrest Fitness Center is the place to be if you want to get into an exercise program for the new year.

Cycling classes are held six days a week while aerobics classes are held five days a week.

The aerobics schedule is:

Monday (free) at noon and 5:30 p.m.; Tuesday 20/20/20 at 4:30 p.m. and Yoga at 5:30 p.m.; Wednesday (free) at noon, body tone at 4:30 p.m. and kick boxing at 5:30 p.m.; Thursday 20/20/20 at 4:30 p.m. and yoga at 5:30 p.m. and Saturday Step (set) at 9 a.m. and Yoga/Pilates at 10 a.m. The cycling schedule is: Monday at 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.; Tuesday at 6:35 a.m.; Wednesday at 6:35 a.m., 9 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.; Thursday at 6:35 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.; Friday at 9 a.m. and Saturday at 9 a.m.

Current standings in the Fort Carson intramural basketball league:

National league

5025th GSU	5-0
DFAC	4-0
43rd CEC	2-0
C 1/44 ADA	3-2
E Co. 1/68	2-3
A Btry, 3/29	1-2
A Co, 52nd Eng	1-3
OSJA	1-3
A Trp, 1/3	0-1
E, 1/8	0-4
L Troop	0-1

American league

S & T Troop	4-0
230th Finance	3-1
64th FSB	3-1
534th Signal	2-1
1/68 CAB	3-2
C2-122 MP	2-2
MEDDAC	2-3
ADA 1/3	1-2
10th CSH	1-3
4th ID	0-3
Med Trp	0-3

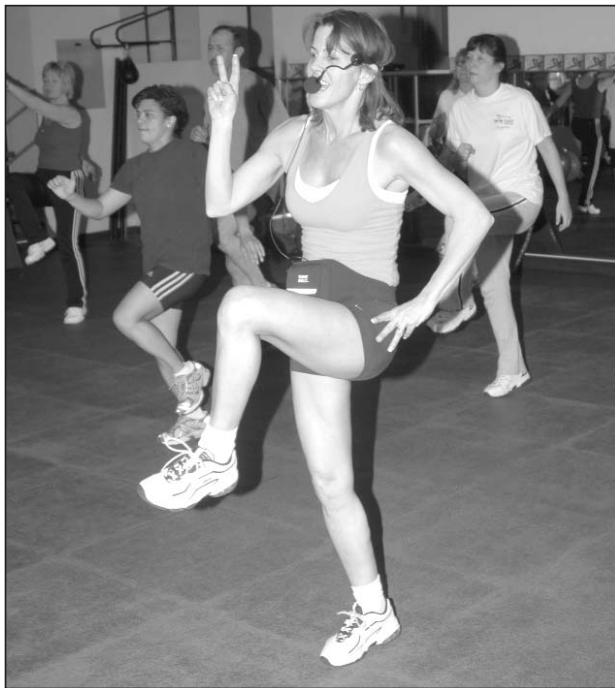


Photo by Walt Johnson

Aerobic workout ...

Gina Casanova, front, leads an aerobics exercise class Tuesday at Forrest Fitness Center.

Army bowlers place second

by Tim Hipps
Army News Service

DALLAS — Army finished second in both the men's and women's divisions of the 2005 Armed Forces Bowling Championships Jan. 10 to 12 at Don Carter All-Star Lanes West.

Air Force defeated Army in the men's competition by 169 total pins in the 32-man team combined score format. Air Force won the women's title as well, easily defeating the second-place Army team by 1,379 pins.

Many military bowlers admitted they were flustered by the national championships' use of sport-oil conditions, which are much tougher to score upon than most house-league surfaces.

"It makes a bowler out of you, that's what it does," added Army Staff Sgt. Dwayne Watkins, who finished second in the men's division with a 4,627 total. "It's mental, it's tough, it's physical — it will wear you down if you don't know what you're doing."

Watkins, a Kiowa Warrior crew chief at Fort Rucker, Ala., bowled a 290 on the second day after settling for a spare in his first frame.

"I rolled 11 strikes in a row after that," said Watkins, who has 14 perfect games on his resume.

1st Sgt. Susan Paschal, from Houston, Texas, was the top women's finisher with 4,220 pins and fourth place overall.

Trojans fall to Denver East 66-41 ...

Fountain-Fort Carson's Charlie Paddock, 42, blocks a shot attempt by Denver East's Andre Hines during second-quarter action Saturday at Fountain-Fort Carson High School. The Trojans put up a big fight for three plus quarters but fell to the defending 5A state champions from Denver East 66-41 Saturday at Fountain-Fort Carson High School. The Trojan boys' team will be in action Saturday when it meets Mesa Ridge High School at Mesa Ridge. The girls' team will host Mesa Ridge High School at Fountain-Fort Carson's gym. Both games will begin at 7 p.m.



Photo by Walt Johnson

Engineers start season strong

by **Walt Johnson**
Mountaineer staff

It didn't look like it was going to be much of a battle and it wasn't for the 43rd Combat Engineer Company, 2nd Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment basketball team Jan. 13 at Waller Physical Fitness Center.

The Engineers ran often and mostly at will as they defeated Howitzer Battery, 3rd Battalion, 29th Field Artillery 52-22 in post intramural action to run the regular season record to 2-0.

Engineer's coach David Street has an absolute embarrassment of riches on his squad this year. The players are fast, quick and as athletic as any group of players you will see here. As easy a time as the team had in its game against Howitzer Battery, it could have been worse if the Engineers were at full strength. Three of the team's tallest (and best) players were unavailable for the game, but it is a credit to the way this team approaches the game that the players were hardly missed.

"The best thing about my team is its intensity. You can see it in the way

we play defense and the will to win that everyone of us has," Street said. Street added the will to win comes from the team being a bunch of players who learned to play the game in other places. Street said this team has only been together this season, but because of their knowledge of the game, they have been able to learn each other quickly and jell as a team.

"We never played together before this year so we knew we had to get together and practice a little bit to learn each other. After a couple of practices and a couple of games, we put the offense and defense in and things came together for us. We also have another intangible and that is we simply love to play the game," Street said.

Street said there is one thing everyone should understand, his team will be ready for whatever it faces this year.

"When you come to play us, you had better bring your A game. The way we see it, we may start awfully slow but we're definitely going to be there at the end of every game we play. We think we can match up with any team," Street said.



Photo by Walt Johnson

A 43rd Combat Engineer player fires up a jump shot over a defender's outstretched arm.

The Money Museum

Learn about the value, history of a dollar



The bald eagle became the national bird, rather than the turkey, and is frequently pictured on American currency.

Story and photos
by Nel Lampe
Mountaineer staff

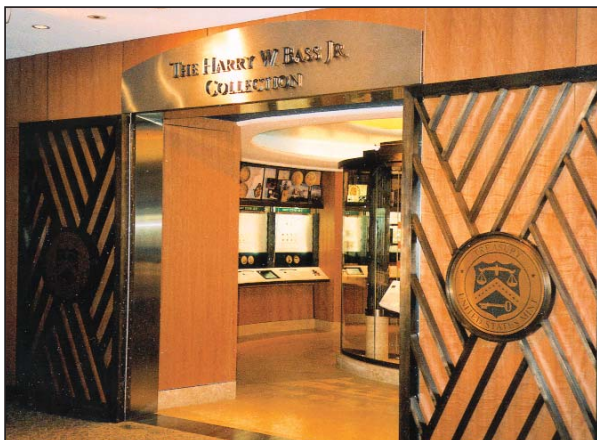
ales after the holidays and post holiday credit card bills are taking their toll on pocketbooks. This is the time of year when people are most aware of money – usually the fact that they don't have enough of it.

What did people do before there was money? Imagine carrying around large bundles of tobacco leaves to pay for purchases. It's hard to put beaver pelts into a walle, but tobacco and beaver pelts once served as money, as did beads (known as wampum by American Indians) in early America.

How did coins and paper money come into being? You can learn about it by visiting the American Numismatic Association's Money Museum at 818 N. Cascade Ave. in Colorado Springs, close to the Colorado College campus. Admission is free.

Two special exhibits are in the Money

See Money, Page 26



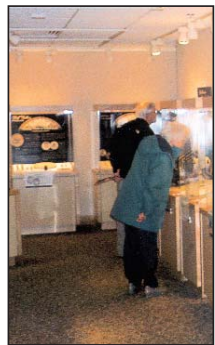
ABOVE: The Bass Collection is a permanent exhibit in the Money Museum. It's worth millions.



A replica of the Mayflower, the ship which brought the Pilgrims to America in 1620, is part of the "Barter, Bits and Dollars" exhibit.



A reproduction Revolutionary War uniform is part of the display on early American money.



Places to see in the Pikes Peak area.

Jan. 21, 2005

Money

From Page 25

Museum. On the first floor, "Barter, Bits and Dollars" traces the way the colonists dealt with the lack of established money to purchase goods. Sometimes valuables served as money in the "new world." English, Dutch, French and Spanish money was also used by the colonists.

Follow the timeline of early America and see how early money came from other countries and private mints. The first U. S. Mint didn't come into being until 1792, though the NE shilling was the first coin issued in 1652, in what would become the United States.

Helping illustrate the historic timeline are several historic objects, such as a three-cornered colonial style hat from 1776, reproduction pilgrim clothing and other objects on loan to the museum.

Another exhibit, "E Pluribus Unum," is in the basement of the Money Museum. This exhibit includes many rare and valuable American coins, such as what is believed to be the first silver dollar ever struck in 1794. The coin is worth millions.

There's a half-cent coin and a valuable, rare 1943 copper penny (the mints switched to steel that year to conserve copper for the war effort).

There are displays of 2-cent, 3-cent and 20-cent coins. There are gold coins, 1804 silver dollars and liberty head nickels.



What did Pilgrims use for money when they arrived in the new world?



The American Numismatic Association Museum, known as the Money Museum, is near the Fine Arts Center in Colorado Springs.

Rare paper money is also displayed, such as a \$100,000 bill.

"E Pluribus Unum" exhibit will be open until April 1.

The museum opened in 1967 in Colorado Springs and has one of the world's largest collections of coins, medals and paper money.

The American Numismatic Society in New York City and The Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C., have large collections of money, but the Colorado Springs museum has the largest display area.

The Money Museum facility houses administrative offices, an editorial department and a library.

After a \$3 million renovation a few years ago, a permanent display was added to the museum — the "Harry W. Bass Jr. Coin Collection." The Bass collection has the finest specimens of America's gold coins. The 500-piece collection is valued at more than \$20 million and includes gold coins, coin patterns and paper money. The collection is displayed in a vault-like setting and computer-enhanced displays tell the story. An audio wand, obtained at the entrance desk, enhances the tour of the Bass collection. Brochures are available.

The museum has some historic equipment on display, such as a massive scale once used to weigh gold bars. The scale is a 10,000-ounce beam balance and is so sensitive that the slightest weight, such as a feather or gold dust, can be measured. The first steam press used by the U.S. Mint in 1836 is also on display.

A glass enclosure just outside the museum entrance houses a gigantic coin stamping machine, the most powerful in the world.

The Money Museum houses a small gift shop. Bookmarks, magnets, pens, playing cards, magnifiers, pencils, ties, key rings, caps, cups and other money related gifts are sold. Money and coin collecting books and coin holder folders are also available. Recently minted state quarters may be available at the Money Museum and books for collecting state quarters are sold there.

Quarters minted in 2004 were Michigan, Texas, Iowa, Florida and Wisconsin. Scheduled to be minted in 2005 are California, Minnesota, Oregon, Kansas and West Virginia. A new quarter is minted every 10 weeks.

Colorado's quarter will be minted in 2006, along with Nevada, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota.

The museum is open from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m., Monday through Friday and Saturdays from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., except for holidays.

Guided tours are given to groups of 10 or more by appointment. Call 625-2646 to arrange a tour.

There is no admission



Corn and tobacco were some items of value that were exchanged for goods and services in early America in lieu of money.



The 1804 silver dollar display is in the E Pluribus Unum exhibit in the Money Museum.

fee to visit the museum.

From Fort Carson, take Interstate 25 north to the Bijou exit. Continue to Cascade Avenue and turn north. The Money Museum is near the Fine Arts Center, a half block north of Dale Street, on the west side of the street.

There is a very small parking lot next to the museum but much of the metered street-side parking is blocked by nearby construction. Visitors may also use the Fine Arts Center Parking Lot just over a block away. Go west on Dale Street and enter the Fine Arts Center Parking lot on the left, near the end of the block.

Just the Facts

- **Travel time** 20 minutes
 - **For ages** families
 - **Type** money museum
 - **Fun factor** ★★★ 1/2 (Out of 5 stars)
 - **Wallet damage** free
 - \$ = Less than \$20
 - \$\$ = \$21 to \$40
 - \$\$\$ = \$41 to \$60
 - \$\$\$\$ = \$61 to \$80
- (Based on a family of four)

Happenings



World Arena venue

Cher, along with the **Village People**, is in the World Arena Feb. 2 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are at 576-2626.

Steven Curtis Chapman, along with Chris Tomlin and Casting Crowns, is in the arena Feb. 14 at 7 p.m. Tickets are on sale at 576-2626.

Colorado College Tigers' hockey team has home games Friday and Saturday in the World Arena. Call 576-2626 for tickets and the rest of the schedule.

Colorado Springs World Arena is at 3185 Venetucci Blvd., near the Circle Drive Exit off Interstate 25. Parking is \$5 for performances.

Pikes Peak Center

Colorado Springs Philharmonic presents "Kalichstein Plays Brahms," Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

"**Dora the Explorer Live**," is set for Feb. 11 through 13, with several performances.

Michael Flatley's "Lord of the Dance," is Feb. 4. Tickets are on sale, from \$34.

"**The Full Monty**," a Tony Award winner, is in the center March 15 and 16, at 8 p.m.

Rob Becker's "Defending the Caveman" is April 8 and 9, at 8 p.m.

Call 576-2626 for tickets and information about Pikes Peak Center events. The theater is at

190 S. Cascade Ave. Parking is streetside on in the garage behind the theater.

Ice skating

John Hancock's "Champions on Ice," including skaters Michelle Kwan, Sasha Cohen, Timothy Goebel and Johnny Weir, is in Denver's Pepsi Center Denver's Pepsi Center at 3 p.m. April 24. Tickets start at \$34; call (303) 830-TIXS.

Stock show

The 99th National Western Stock Show in Denver runs through Tuesday. The family event includes livestock shows, horse shows, competitions, a Mexican Rodeo Extravaganza and other events. Call the box office at 4655 Humboldt St. in Denver, (888) 551-5004. Take Interstate 25 north until Interstate 70 intersects; go east on I-70. Take either the Brighton or Coliseum exit to the coliseum.

Musicals in Denver

"**Jesus Christ Superstar**," is Jan. 25 to 29 at 8 p.m. in the Buell Theater in downtown Denver. Call (800) 641-1222 for ticket information.

"**Gypsy**" is on stage at the Country Dinner Playhouse, in southern Denver. It runs through Jan. 30. For tickets, call (303) 799-1410. The theater is near the Arapahoe Exit off Interstate 25 north. Go online at countrydinnerplayhouse.com.

Academy theater

The Air Force Academy concert series continues with "**Crazy for You**" Saturday at 7:30 p.m. Tickets start at \$20.

"**Steel Magnolias**" is Feb. 25 at 8 p.m.

Tickets start at \$15.

"**Young Ambassadors**" is in the theater Feb. 25 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12.

Both performances are in the Arnold Hall Theater. Call the box office at 333-4497 for ticket information.

Mardi Gras Ball

The annual Mardi Gras fund raiser dinner and dance is Feb. 5, from 6 p.m. to midnight in the Knights of Columbus Hall, 565 Marquette in Security. Sponsored by the Colorado Springs Council of Black Catholics, tickets are \$15; call 390-8486 for information.

Tiwanaku exhibit

The Tiwanaku exhibit in the Denver Art Museum ends Sunday. The Tiwanaku ruled the Andes and were ancestors of the Inca. The Denver Art Museum is in downtown Denver, call (720) 865-5000 or go online, denverartmuseum.org.

Fine Arts Center repertory theater

Next production at the Fine Arts Center Repertory theater is "Cabaret," which runs Feb. 4 through 27 at the theater, 30 W. Dale St. Performances are at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are available at the box office, 634-5583, \$26.

Star Bar Players production

"**The Merry Wives of Windsor**" runs through Feb. 6 at Lon Chaney Theater in the City Auditorium, 221 E. Kiowa. The production runs Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. There is a 2 p.m. matinee Feb. 6. Tickets start at \$12.

Happenings



Photo by Nel Lampe

Alligators ...

Colorado's "Gator Farm" is hosting El Paso County residents to free tours, Sunday through Jan. 29, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Prove you live in El Paso Country — show a driver's license or military identification card — and get a free tour of the farm. The farm is 17 miles north of Alamosa at Mosca — 9162 County Road 9 North. It's near the Great Sand Dunes in southwest Colorado.



Program Schedule for Fort Carson cable Channel 10, today to Jan. 28.

Army Newswatch: The 2004 Year in Review (repeat). Airls at 7:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m. and 12:30 a.m.

Navy/Marine Corps News: stories on the Marine Corps' new breaching vehicle, Navy doctors in Panama City, Fla., treating wounded military and the first naval officer to head NORAD (repeat). Airls at 8 a.m., 1 p.m., 8 p.m. and 1 a.m.

Air Force News: The Secretary of the Air Force and the Chief of Staff of the Air Force discuss their vision for the Air Force future. Airls at 8:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 8:30 p.m. and 1:30 a.m.

The Mountain Post Community Town Meeting, held monthly, airts at 9 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

The Pentagon Channel plays on Channel 9. In addition to standard programs like Army Newswatch, the channel will feature other Army-related programs, including briefings and other Army news.

If you have comments on Channel 10 programming or wish to coordinate a broadcast on Channel 10, please contact Chief of Command Information at 526-1241 or via e-mail at CommandInfo@carson.army.mil.

Program times will be published in the *Mountaineer* provided coordination is made one week prior to publication.

For additions to the Community Calendar, please submit an e-mail to the above address. Send a clean, typewritten copy of the information to the Public Affairs Office, room 2180, 6151 Specker Ave., Fort Carson, CO 80913 or fax information to 526-1021 no later than Friday before desired airing time.